

# EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

THE ONLY OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

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## from the EDITOR'S CHAIR

### Don't let George do it

Senator John G. Schmitz had a unique reason for being in opposition when the State Senate voted last week to outlaw cigarette advertising.

Schmitz, who is the Senate's only admitted Bircher and comes from some place named Tustin in Southern California, did not deny that cigarettes can kill you.

He felt that to outlaw advertising of something, whether or not it can be demonstrated to be lethal, is "totalitarian." That word is standard in Bircher warnings against anything progressive, although it may sound strange coming from a member of a society whose founder calls democracy "mobocracy" and who rules without any nonsense about democracy for the membership.

AND SCHMITZ said, even more interestingly, that George Washington raised tobacco. If George was for tobacco, Schmitz indicated, let us not tamper with it.

His logic could lead much further and, for his information here are a few more things the father of his country did:

Washington wore a powdered wig with a pigtail on formal occasion. This means, in the Schmitz doctrine, that the wig makers should retool for a big production of powdered wigs with pigtails, since every God-fearing, patriotic man and boy in the nation (in Tustin anyway) ought to have one.

George Washington had a set of steel false teeth which fitted him badly and were extremely painful when he wore them. So throw away those plates you just got through paying the dentist for. Head for your neighborhood machine shop and place your order for a set of steel ones.

He wrote his letters in long-hand with a quill pen. Throw away those typewriters. They're pretty noisy, anyway.

Washington wore knee breeches and long stockings when he and Martha were invited out of an evening. So throw away those slacks and suit pants, men.

He wore a three-cornered hat over his powdered wig. This means that those derbies, skimmers and felts have to go.

Washington also owned slaves and one wonders what the Schmitz doctrine would say on this point.

THERE WAS one other activity of George Washington which becomes pertinent in light of the Bircher Senator's appeal to his example. Washington led the military forces of a bloody revolution which overthrew the existing government by force and violence.

Senator, what are you thinking of?

The editor is ill. His column will appear occasionally during his convalescence and will be resumed on his return.

## CLC blood bank open

### Livermore strike won

### City settles during three day walkout

Public Works employees of the City of Livermore won a three day strike last week — the first walkout of municipal employees in the city's history.

The blue collar workers, members of Livermore Chapter of the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees 1675, struck at midnight Monday, July 23. They returned to work at midnight Thursday after City Manager William Parness agreed to a union formula for settlement.

Settlement includes a 7.5 per cent wage increase July 1; application of \$22,000 to correct inequities, major goal of negotiations; and a series of fringe improvements.

Jerry Taylor, chairman of the rank and file negotiating committee, said the pay increases would average out at about 9 per cent.

During the strike the 38 union members picketed the city hall, city corporation yard, water reclamation plant, airport, golf course and two city construction

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### Grape talks continue

Ten Southern California table grape growers and the AFLCIO United Farm Workers Organizing Committee were "still far apart on many issues" when mediation sessions recessed Monday morning until Thursday.

Regional Director Edwin Scott of the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service asked both sides to reevaluate their positions before resuming talks in Los Angeles Thursday, July 3.

Scott said they were in particular disagreement on "hiring halls, successor clause and pesticides." He did not elaborate.

Scott, heading a top three-man team from the FM&CS, kept the talks going through marathon sessions through the weekend until 4 a.m. Monday.

Meanwhile a widening split developed among table grape growers. The division was between those who asked for the mediation session and rightwing growers who want nothing to do with unions if the unions can call an effective strike.

And, UFWOC reported, five Arizona grape growers are interested in getting involved in talks for the first union contract with table grape growers.

In the California dispute Lionel Steinberg resigned from the California Grape & Tree Fruit League in protest against its use

### Larger boycott planned for CLC

"We are going to accelerate our activity in the grape boycott," Executive Secretary-treasurer Richard K. Groulx told the Alameda Central Labor Council Monday night.

"The boycott is more crucial than ever," Cesar Chavez, head of the AFLCIO United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, had written in a thank you letter for "the determined efforts of the Alameda labor community."

Groulx conferred last week with AWOC spokesmen and Gene De Christofaro, AFLCIO regional representative, on expansion of the boycott.

of "misleading figures" in opposing the table grape boycott.

Steinberg is one of the 10 who asked for the mediation sessions. He is a member of the State Board of Agriculture.

In his letter of resignation from the league, to which he had belonged for 20 years, Steinberg said:

"When you keep insisting everything is rosy and we should keep our chins up, I sincerely be-

MORE on page 8

## BTC censures unsanctioned picketing on Pleasanton job

An unsanctioned picket line in a jurisdictional dispute stopped work Tuesday by nearly 300 unionists on the Kaiser research facility in Pleasanton and was promptly castigated by the Alameda County Building Trades Council.

"Irresponsible placing of picket lines is going to reduce the respect for all lines," said BTC Secretary J. Lamar Childers in a sentiment echoed by a dozen delegates. "This is one of the things that are a grave danger."

Sheet Metal Workers 216 pick-

eted the construction job seeking work that had been assigned to the carpenters — placing of metal trim and sliding glass doors on fume hood enclosures in the laboratory.

The BTC Executive Committee denied strike sanction to the Sheet Metal Workers and told them to use union procedures to settle the dispute.

"These procedures do work and should be adhered to," Childers said. "You can get a decision and a reasonably fair one in a very short time."

"There is no reason for a line that is jurisdictional in nature. The Council cannot approve such a line and will not."

The Council told the Sheet Metal Workers to take their beef before the joint board for a ruling.

The BTC granted strike sanction to Teamsters 291 against Building materials and ready mix firms. Childers said this dis-

MORE on page 8

## OFFICIAL NOTICES

Correspondents columns will be found on page 4 of this edition of the Labor Journal. Unions will find notices of important meetings called by their officers on page 6.



EAST BAY Municipal Utility District memorandum of agreement, reached last week with AFSCME 444 is discussed by union negotiators. Left to right, standing: William Lucy, special assistant to the president of AFSCME; Alameda County Central Labor Council Executive Secretary Richard K. Groulx; Edward O. (Pete) Lee, Area Manpower representative; front row—Local 444 negotiator Alton Williams, President Manuel Pontes and Secretary-Treasurer Charles Teixeira.



# HOW TO BUY

## Oldsters are cynically exploited

BY SIDNEY MARGOLIUS  
Labor Consumer Adviser for Labor Journal

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Apparently it is not enough that the present generation of retired people lived through wars and depressions, built this country's present wealth, and now have to try to live on an average retirement income of less than \$2,500 a year.

But they also are subjected to some of the most cynical exploitations and commercial indignities you'd care to see, including high-priced drugs; overpriced hearing aids and eyeglasses.

**PATENT MEDICINES** are not only exorbitantly priced but play on older people's fears and sometimes are worthless. Commercial nursing homes and hospitals financed by Wall Street are springing up to take advantage of Medicare.

Loophole-ridden health insurance plans are being sold to supplement Medicare. There are other overcharges and deceptions large and small.

Now senior-citizen organizations, and the U. S. Senate Special Committee on Aging are making a determined effort to try to bring into the open and correct these abuses of elderly people.

The senior groups are concerned not merely about fringe rack-ets but about the exploitation of oldsters through exorbitant prices of many basic necessities. William Hutton, Executive Director of the National Council of Senior Citizens, told a recent national conference at the University of Michigan.

**OLDER PEOPLE** are our most vulnerable consumers. Their urgent needs, lack of resources and their own worries make them victims of many overcharges.

Older consumers also are most vulnerable to the creeping inflation of the past decade. Now the trotting inflation has raised living costs about 11 per cent for everybody in just the past 2½ years, but closer to 15 per cent for the oldsters.

Their living costs have gone up more because two of their biggest expenses — housing and medical care—have been rising faster than the overall cost of living. Less than three years ago the Bureau of Labor Statistics "moderate" living standard for a retired couple cost \$322 a month. Now, by by own approximate updating, it costs about \$375.

**ON THE BASIS** of the letters we get from older people, here are their most-frequent complaints or requests for help:

1. The high price of food.
2. The high cost of medicines.
3. What health insurance they need to supplement Medicare and where to get it.
4. Costs of hearing aids and eyeglasses.
5. Transportation costs in general, and auto insurance costs and cancellations in particular.
6. High charges and deceptive

selling of home improvement leading to some real tragedies including sometimes near losses and occasionally actual loss of homes.

7. High charges by doctors.  
8. Purchases of unneeded life insurance, or the wrong kind for their needs, with subsequent regrets.

9. Questions about commercial retirement villages and real-estate promotions.

**A TENTH AREA** of exploitation plagues oldsters about which they often are unaware or tend to defend. That is the lack of nutritional understanding which often leads them to buy vitamin supplements and tonics, and some overpriced "health food," and so spend more than they should for an adequate diet.

Arbitrary cancellations of auto insurance for older people, or extra charges when they reach a certain age, have turned out to be unfair and unmerited.

The truth, according to AAA statistics and a survey by the University of Denver College of Law, is that older drivers over 70 have a safety record comparable to those in the 25-29 age group. Since older drivers drive less and have less exposure, they actually are involved in fewer accidents in proportion to their numbers than some of the younger age groups.

The University of Denver study sponsored by the U.S. Administration on Aging and conducted in 30 states and the District of Columbia found that drivers over 65 represented 7.4 per cent of all drivers but were involved in only 4.8 per cent of the accidents. Moreover, their accidents produced 40 per cent fewer injuries.

**SENIOR CITIZEN** groups are exploring the practicality of setting up their own auto insurance services to correct this problem of discrimination by private companies.

The senior citizen representatives at the Michigan conference were told that the best chance of solving some of the consumer problems of older people is through group buying.

Among group activities sponsored by trade unions, co-ops and senior groups in various areas are:

Drug plans ranging from simple arrangements for discounts from local pharmacists to complete drug depots and mail order services such as the Direct Drug Service in Washington, D.C., and the services in Florida, California and Washington sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons.

Group optical plans. Several now also handle hearing aids.

Supplementary health insurance increasingly available at low group rates through non-profit organizations.

## What They Wore... by PHYLLIS JOYCE



## Cooking skills help reduce meat costs

Use your cooking skills and lower priced forms of protein to beat skyrocketing meat prices, advises Sylvia Siegel, executive director of the Association of California Consumers.

Mrs. Siegel called it "Operation Protein Switch."

"If everybody joins in and avoids higher priced meat cuts," she said, "prices will come down."

"She also called on housewives to join in a price survey to keep tab on meat prices.

The consumer spokesman said the switch to lower priced substitutes would not only save money but "the housewives might enjoy the fun of trying new recipes for the next 30 days."

"I make it a practice of not spending more than 70 cents a pound for protein food when I shop for my family," Mrs. Siegel continued. "In today's high priced meat department, this limits choices severely. Ground beef is still the best protein buy if you have to serve beef."

"However, variety meats using such cuts as kidneys, liver, tongue, heart, etc., should give the housewives an opportunity to exercise her flair for invention and experiment with all sorts of herbs and condiments to make most attractive and tasty meals. Turkeys, whole or quarters, and chicken, when on sale, offer excellent protein value in the marketplace.

"And, of course, low-priced eggs and all kinds of cheeses are excellent meat substitutes. I find that fish fillets fixed in cioppino or curries or sauteed with mushrooms and wine are delicious entrees."

The home economists of the newspapers, consumers co-operative stores and utility companies are valuable resource people for menu suggestions and recipes, the consumer spokesman said.

"Families will welcome a bit of variety in their menus and the main purpose—of bringing unseasonable high prices down to a level that will permit use of better cuts—should be the ultimate result of "Operation Protein Switch," Mrs. Siegel continued.

Simple forms for the price survey for each housewife to check the price of ground beef, ground chuck, sirloin steak and boneless cross rib roast are available at the information desks of local YWCA's, Unitarian Churches and Community Centers.

Mrs. Siegel advised housewives to send a postal card to Association headquarters at 3030 Bridge-way, Sausalito if they need more forms.

"The idea," Mrs. Siegel explained, "is to check prices again in the same store a week later."

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## Getting Your MONEY'S WORTH

When you buy on the installment plan, use revolving credit at a bank or store or make a personal loan, you'll be interested in a law that went into effect July 1.

The truth-in-lending law will do a number of things:

- It will show you exactly how many dollars a credit deal will add to the price of what you are buying.
- It will make it easier for you to decide whether to finance a purchase on the store's terms or borrow elsewhere.
- It will really help you to shop the credit market and locate money at the best price.
- It will facilitate price comparisons despite all the different and confusing kinds of installment terms—the monthly payments, add-ons, discounts, number of payments, insurance charges and son on.
- And by using the law to your best benefit, you can finally have a real influence on that stubborn segment of commerce, the money market.

**UNTIL NOW**, the multiplicity of kinds and types of loans and installment terms offered to consumers, together with the variety and usually misleading ways of stating loan costs, made it impossible for most people to learn with any precision the cost of borrowing.

Few consumers, for example, realized that when banks advertised a 5 per cent "discount rate" on automobile loans, the true annual rate on payments spread over three years was really 11 per cent. Or that a "small service charge" of 1½ per cent a month in a revolving charge account equalled a not-so-small 18 per cent per year.

Or that a dealer's carrying charges added to the cash price of an appliance at a rate of \$12 per \$100 amounted to 21.5 per cent annual interest. Or that the "easy terms" of a personal loan company could range up to 30 per cent and even 48 per cent for many consumer loans.

The Truth-in-Lending Act provides for meaningful labeling of most kinds of installment debt, including both consumer credit and agricultural loans to family farmers.

In a very real sense, it should make shopping for credit easier than shopping for eggs. When you buy eggs, there are quality, grade, size and freshness to think about, as well as price per dozen. When it comes to borrowing dollars you can concentrate on the price tag.

On the other hand, the protection provided in the Act is minimal. Bankers, merchants and door-to-door salesmen can keep on promoting consumer credit at least as aggressively as before.

In many cases, debt will continue to be merchandised with indifference to the borrower's ability to pay.

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# Banks threaten jobs, force prices up

The "public be damned" interest-rate hike imposed by the nation's biggest banks threatens to spin the United States into a recession, the AFLCIO warned.

"High interest rates mean lost jobs," AFLCIO research director Nathaniel Goldfinger told the House Banking Committee. "They hit construction first and

hardest, but the effects spread." The price rise forced by the higher cost of money gets passed along to the consumer and pushes up "the price of everything we buy."

Even before the latest sharp rise to 8.5 per cent in the interest the banks charge to their best customers, most families had

been priced out of the home-buying market.

With interest rates shooting up rents as well, Goldfinger added, "decent housing is being put out of the reach of even middle-income working people."

He urged the administration and Congress to "take every possible action to seek a roll-back of the prime interest rate."

He called on the Justice Department to probe the "monopolistic price fixing action" of the big banks in almost simultaneously raising interest rates to determine if the antitrust laws have been violated.

Goldfinger stressed that the rise in the prime interest rate from 7.5 to 8.5 per cent — the highest level in the nation's history and the biggest single increase ever imposed — was not a one-time action.

**31% INCREASE**

It was the fifth increase in interest rates since December — a 31 per cent rise in the cost of money in less than a year. And already, he noted, "there is talk of another rise in the prime rate."

Instead of combatting inflation, the interest hike is making it worse, Goldfinger charged. Of the 5.4 per cent rise in the consumer price index from April 1968 to April 1969, seven-tenths of 1 per cent was the result of higher mortgage interest charges.

"Sharp increases in interest rates discourage business expansion and result in production cutbacks and job losses," he noted. "As builders' loan costs and mortgage rates rise, homebuilders postpone construction."

"State, county and municipal governments put off their building of hospitals, schools, roads and public buildings."

"Small and medium-sized businesses — and state and local governments — get hit hard by the increased costs and hold back on expanding their operations."

Goldfinger reminded the committee that in the 1950s "upward

hikes in the prime rate were eventually followed by a recession . . . with untold losses in economic growth and human losses, in terms of jobs and incomes."

It's time, he said, for Congress to lay the groundwork for "much needed reform of the government's monetary machinery."

The United States "is a rich country, with a powerful and flexible economy." But Goldfinger warned that the nation's economy "cannot continue to prosper under the blows of the sharply rising interest rates of the past year — on top of the rising trend of interest rates since the early 1950s."

## Hit and Run



## 'Bring It Back Down!'



## Reagan tries to halt grape boycott, pro-AFLCIO stories

Governor Reagan is trying to muzzle an Economic Opportunity Agency publication in southern Alameda County. He wants the "Catalyst" to shut up about the grape boycott and the AFLCIO.

Reagan's price tag is \$1,200,000.

The governor's office has right of veto over OEO grants. However, he recommended approval of \$1,200,000 grant to the southern Alameda County agency if it complied with 10 recommendations he forwarded to Joseph Maldonado, acting director in San Francisco of the office that finances the agency.

One of them was that the monthly newspaper, the "Catalyst," "restrict itself from propaganda advocating grape boycott issues or the insignia of the AFLCIO."

The grant was awarded.

The June issue of Catalyst then frontpaged a picture of pickets with AFLCIO boycott banners and a story outlining the poverty of farm workers saying "this kind of protest" was a fitting way to improve conditions.

Maldonado said local antipoverty groups are allowed "a great deal of latitude and autonomy" and may take positions "that are often controversial."

Maldonado said the governor's 10 points, including the demand that "Catalyst" be muzzled, "are simply recommendations" and "have no binding effect."

A Reagan aide, however, said, "We are just not going to tolerate the use of public funds for any labor organizing and political activity."

His aides asked Maldonado for a meeting. If that doesn't get what the governor wants, he said other steps would be taken. He didn't say what.

## Factory workers weekly in state earning \$143.16

Factory workers in California averaged \$143.16 for a 40.1 hour week in April, the Department of Labor reported, well above the national average of 123.86.

However, Californians trailed Nevadans, who got \$152.10 for 39 hours, and Washington state workers, receiving \$150.10 for a 39½ hour week.

Hourly rates were \$3.90 in Nevada, \$3.80 in Washington and \$3.57 in California.

In a year hourly rates increased 30 cents in Washington, 17 cents in California and 4 cents in Nevada.

The United States average was up 17 cents to \$3.14 an hour.

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**NOTICE**

**ALL RETIRED MEMBERS OF EAST BAY AUTOMOTIVE MACHINISTS**

**LOCAL 1546, I. A. M. & A. W. OR OTHER RETIRED MACHINISTS IN THE EAST BAY**

... There will be nomination for Officers for the East Bay Senior Citizens Club, No. 1389 (sponsored by Local 1546) at the next regular meeting at 1:00 P.M., Wednesday, July 9th, 1969 at the Hall of the East Bay Automotive Machinist 1546; 10260 MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland, California.

**ELECTION WILL BE HELD AT 1:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1969 AT THE SAME PLACE.**

Please attend,  
Fraternally,  
Ed. T. Merritt, Sec. Protom.

## Central Labor Council seats five delegates

Five new delegates were seated by the Alameda County Central Labor Council June 23. They are:

Gaylen Malich, Clerical & Technical Employees 1695; George Stokes and Robert William, Oakland Federation of Teachers 771; Mike Gomez, AFSCME 1675; and Frederick Berry, University of California Teachers 1474.

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**HISTORIC ERA** on the Supreme Court came to a close as Earl Warren stepped down after 16 years as Chief Justice and swore in his successor, Warren E. Burger, right. President Nixon, speaking to the court as a lawyer, praised Warren's "fairness, integrity and dignity."

## Sheet Metal Workers 216

BY ROBERT M. COOPER

Congrats to Dennis Reil and wife on the arrival of a brand new boy tax exemption.

We are proud to announce that Local 216 has an author in its ranks by name of Ernie Hyrkas.

Ernie spent a lot of time on research, etc. and now has published three sheet metal pattern lay-out books. Book No. 1 covers all phases of general sheet metal, Book No. 2 covers the field of round lay-out while Book No. 3 is concerned with all phases of heating and air conditioning rectangular duct work lay-out.

All three books are very well written with lots of definitions, geometrical problems and formulas, pattern drawings showing all methods of lay-outs.

Book No. 1 and No. 2 sell for \$5.00 unless you want No. 2 in the hard cover which sells for \$5.75. Book No. 3 in the industrial cover costs \$5.50 or the hard cover is \$6.50. To secure any or all of the books, just send a check or money order to Ernie Hyrkas, 368 41st Street, Oakland, California 94609. Be sure to include 5 per cent sales tax to cost of books.

You get a \$1.00 discount if you order two books and for the full set, knock off \$2.00 from the total.

They are really fine books but if you want additional information, it will be furnished upon request.

The job situation is still dismal and it is hard to predict when it will be better. The tight money is raising havoc with the residential work and we have our fingers crossed that it doesn't spill over to the commercial work.

Regular meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month at 8 p.m., in the Labor Temple, Oakland.

Members of the Tri-State Council Death Benefit Plan please note that Death Assessments No. 646 and 647 were levied this past week.

## AFSCME 371 'Info'

BY NAT DICKERSON

As a youthful coal miner in West Virginia, the writer recalls that work shifts were ten hours or more, without pay differentials for night work.

Along with the lack of health and safety measures plus other adverse conditions, nothing much was thought of the situa-

tion. In later years concerned people, such as Eugene Debs, John L. Lewis, and others, began to tear down these cruel bulwarks which caused a life of misery and serfdom for so many people.

We left the scene many years before all the later improvements came; there are, however, a few persons in the University Administration whom the writer has had occasion to meet, who also remember those times. But they have repudiated those memories, and joined the Elite Class in its persecution of the poor.

Just as many improvements for industrial unions were hard won so, apparently, must be in the field of public employment.

Coal mine operators fought for a long time against legislation for the eight hour day, and later portal to portal pay, but their fight was in vain.

We see here at the University, obvious but effective means of prostituting established union goals and principles: Some foremen are required (or so they say) to report to certain staffs, before officially beginning their work schedule, or they perhaps like to be seen in their street clothes, before donning the STRIPES.

In any case this has resulted in their using the men's free time in giving detailed instructions prior to the period in which they are being paid!

Of course there are fellows who consider this to be a minor thing, but viewed through the eyes of critical paying members (and these are legion), it represents the epitome in ineffectuality of the union, they so often decry.

It behooves ALL of us to take a close look at every stratagem used by the Administration, and its stooges, to discredit the potential of our Local.

The least union effort, the more administrative abuse.

It's as simple as that.

The writer would like comments from any custodian who has suffered severe coughing spells, several hours after making extensive use of the purple bowl bleach now in general use for campus buildings.

Cards or letters may be sent to: N. F. (Nat) Dickerson, 1108 62nd Avenue, Oakland, Calif. 94621, or to: Mr. Larry Schmeltzer, Director, Department of Environmental Health and Safety, University of California, Berkeley.

## Jet age blacksmiths

The jet age hasn't lost all contact with the horse and buggy era. The nation will need 600 new blacksmiths every year for the next five years, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports.

## Chips and Chatter

BY AL THOMAN

Brother Benny has his wife in the Albany Hospital on Marin Avenue, Albany. She will be there for several days and home for some weeks.

The List this morning has about 50 men on it. There were very few calls this Monday but the men come in small numbers also.

Brother Sam Wise an Apprentice was injured a week ago in Chico in an accident. He died last Saturday.

Brother Richard Thomason walked in with a fractured wrist in a cast but the Doctor said he could work and he is doing so every day. Who says these men are not tough.

Brother Ralph Love tells of driving through tornados, dust storms and just plain heat to get back from a family funeral in Kansas. He went for one and another went while he was there. Two funerals make a lousy vacation.

The new officers for our next two years will be installed Thursday, July 2. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Watchmakers Local 101

BY GEORGE F. ALLEN

It is not our policy to repeat information given in any previous column. However, this week we are making an exception inasmuch as some of the members are a bit confused over the "Floating Holiday" which was obtained in the last agreement.

Heretofore we had seven holidays with pay. In the last agreement an additional holiday with pay was obtained for the members called a "Floating Holiday." This brings the total of paid holidays to eight in 1969 and 1970.

"Floating Holiday" means that it can be taken at ANYTIME during the year—also in 1970—it may be taken in conjunction with your vacation — with any other paid holiday—or whenever you so desire PROVIDING the day you choose is agreeable to your employer.

Some unions have added to their agreements an eighth holiday to be taken on the member's birthday; we asked for and did receive the "Floating Holiday" which, if agreeable to your employer and you desire to do so, can be taken on YOUR birthday.

So, the choice of the "Floating Holiday" is merely a paid holiday to be taken at any time agreeable to you and your employer.

## Barbers 134

BY JACK M. REED

Brothers we had a good attendance at our June 26 meeting. Joe Lopez and Tom Evans both did a fine job on their models. Joe Lopez also introduced the new I.B.I. products.

A resolution was presented for the first reading to assess a member \$1.00 on a second notice (billing) of his delinquency on dues and pension. The second reading will be held at our July 24 regular meeting.

The members present recommended that the delegates to the State Convention introduce a resolution for a Sunday Closing Law. At the Northern Council this month a resolution will be introduced to stop the Beauticians from cutting men's and boys' hair for less than the state minimum price. Instead of always taking the defensive in Sacramento we should try the offense for a change.

Journeyman barbers are needed for vacation jobs this month only. It seems that most of our

brothers want to take off during the month of July. I have filled quite a few vacation jobs but if some of our brothers would delay their vacation until August it would be easier for this office to have some unemployed barber take their place. There are several apprentices available for steady work and also two journeymen that will be available for a steady job in September.

Fred Erdman has been in the hospital for repair and I hope that he is back at the old stand by the time this column reaches him.

## Sheet Metal Credit Union

BY HAROLD R. SAKSA

Sometime or another every one of us get into financial trouble. It's like death and taxes. It can't be avoided. The person who prepares himself is the person that will get by with the least amount of discomfort and worry.

Should you find yourself in this uncomfortable position and are hard pressed for a solution contact your credit union Family Financial Counselor. Your credit union counselor is trained to find solutions for financial worries. Just having someone looking at your problem from another view can make the difference. This service is free and confidential to all our members.

In the meantime, before you are in trouble, start a savings plan with your credit union. Our members received 4½ per cent dividends for 1968. When life insurance and other benefits are added the 4½ per cent is better than any commercial rate of interest on short term or small amount deposits you can get from Banks or Savings and Loan companies.

## Employment rises to new May peak

Bay Area employment hit a new May record of 1,379,200 in May while unemployment dropped to 49,600, lowest level for the month in 10 years. The unemployment rate was 3.7 per cent.

Biggest single factor in both the drop in unemployment and the 6,600 monthly increase in the number working was improvement in construction.

The total number of jobs in the area was up 42,800 in a year, a rise of 3.2 per cent.

**GOOD HOUSEKEEPING** is a Hearst magazine. Labor asks you not to buy any Hearst publications until Hearst scabbing in Los Angeles stops.

## Steel Machinists 1304

BY DAVE ARCA

Hi. Contrary to childhood stories, people don't live "happily ever after." Love, finances and fickle Fate are factors in finding happiness. Which is mainly a sometimes thing.

Unions aren't happy. Members are defecting to racism and fear. Unions predicted Reagan's anti-people policies. But, members are people, and people are fearful.

Unions are many things to many people. We're loved, hated, defended, rejected, approved, and abhorred. Depending upon opinions. Workers NEED unions. But, necessity isn't necessarily love. Admiration arises sometimes, when Unions oppose Employer impositions upon employees.

In Union City, we work in a non-Union Plant. Incredibly, we have lasted more than a year. As employe, we've witnessed arrogant attitudes of unfair Foremen. Not to mention the cold-blooded callousness of an unrestrained Employer.

Ironically, Unions, competing to organize our Plant, compel workers to remain unorganized. Legal maneuvering cancelled a scheduled election. None has been rescheduled pending rulings and decisions of the NLRB.

To some 200 workers, Happiness is Union representation. Cooperation by Organized Labor would help. Okay? Okay.

## Court won't halt greencard flood to California farms

A U.S. District Court judge refused last week to check the flow of Mexican workers into California agricultural fields.

California Rural Legal Assistance had asked the court to stop the influx of Mexican green carders charging they were costing American farm workers \$15,000,000 a year in lost wages and the state \$7,000,000 in welfare benefits for Americans whose jobs the seasonal immigrants took.

CLRC also charged use of this low paid help from across the border violated the intent of Congress in killing the Bracero program in 1965.

Judge Stanley Weigel denied their request.

These temporary workers have been competing with U.S. residents for California farm jobs and picking table grapes in vineyards struck by the AFLCIO United Farm Workers Organizing Committee.



**SALUTING EFFORTS** of Musicians' President Herman D. Kenin in the fight against muscular dystrophy, comedian Jack Benny presents a plaque to the AFLCIO vice president during the AFM convention in Las Vegas. Kenin recently was re-elected vice president of the Muscular Dystrophy Associations of America.



## Seeks aid for the 'hungry in rich Alameda County'

A bill to help "those who go hungry in rich Alameda County" and other sections of the prosperous Ninth Congressional District was introduced in the House June 26 by Democratic Congressman Don Edwards.

Edwards bill would modify the federal food stamp program to answer specific complaints from his district which "includes the fertile lands of Southern Alameda County, the Santa Clara Valley and a small portion of San Mateo County."

"There is no lack of food here" with farms "still producing lush yields and good profits," Edwards told the House.

"All three of these counties brag about the wealth of their inhabitants."

Yet hunger is there, including "families with children suffering from the effects of diagnosed malnutrition."

Edwards bill, a companion measure to the Food Stamp Reform Act introduced by Democratic Senator George McGovern of South Dakota, would:

1. Allow families to buy all or any part of their food stamp allotment. Now they must buy the entire allotments or none at all.
2. Allow states to lower eligibility requirements based on local living costs.
3. Make stamps available to families whose income is less than two-thirds of minimum cost of a nutritionally adequate diet—\$90 for a family of four.

In introducing the bill Edwards said:

"The Ninth District of California is fortunate enough to be in an area which produces an abundance of food and whose inhabitants earn far more than the national average."

"The problem of hunger should be absent . . .

"It is one of the deep ironies of this nation that instead there are those who go hungry in rich Alameda County, those who go hungry in the lush Santa Clara Valley, and those who go hungry in green San Mateo County."

"I do not know how many these hungry number. No one has ever investigated fully, another irony . . .

"I would hope the people of my district will help us find the hungry, discover where they live, and determine what can be done to help . . .

"Governmental programs have failed," Edwards said, as he called for "new solutions to problems of hunger in a place where hunger has no right to exist."

Edwards continued by quoting from Senator McGovern:

"Are we to believe that our nation can afford 11 trips to the moon, a new multi-billion dollar manned bomber and a dubious anti-ballistic missile system, but that we cannot afford a penny more to feed hungry children because this would cause inflation? This is nothing less than disgraceful—the use of the threat of inflation to persuade a person who is suffering from hunger to wait a few more years for food."

"I would add that we can afford napalm for Vietnam, we can even afford to feed hungry Vietnamese, but we are now told we cannot afford the money to feed hungry Americans."

## Human rehabilitation held vital in fight on urban decay

There is more to ending urban decay than clearing slums, two union officials told the conference of the American Management Association in New York.

AFLCIO Vice President Joseph D. Keenan and Director Walter G. Davis of the AFLCIO Department of Education, stressed that there must be human rehabilitation along with rehabilitation of housing.

The hardcore jobless, Davis said, "must see some long range security."

"Therefore, it would be a mistake to think only in terms of training for a dead-end single-job opportunity without a career ladder component built into the program."

"Keenan noted that 'organized labor, more than 30 years ago, initiated the drive for low-rent public housing for low-income families.'"

Keenan is secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and chairman of the AFLCIO Housing Committee.

Keenan cited an urgent need to step up the public housing program for the construction of 500,000 low-rent units annually over the next two years.

He reminded the Management Association that unions have helped bring about legislation as rent supplements, model city programs, state fair housing laws

and the Fair Housing Act passed by Congress this year.

Keenan called for support of the efforts of the national Urban Coalition—made up of leaders in government, religion, civil rights, business and labor.

The goal, he said, is to bring about massive increases in the production of housing available to low-income groups so as to eliminate substandard housing within ten years.

Davis cited the work of many labor and trade unions who have developed pre-apprenticeship training programs aimed at the unemployed of the city ghettos and disadvantaged youngsters.

He noted the AFLCIO Community Services Activities has designed a massive "buddy system" to assist hardcore recruits, which with the cooperation of the National Alliance of Businessmen and the Department of Labor will operate in about 50 cities.

Why not pass this copy of the East Bay Labor Journal to a friend of yours when you are finished reading it!

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## Here is labor's Hearst boycott list

Striking and locked out unions in the 16 month old struggle with Hearst's Los Angeles Herald-Examiner this week renewed their call not to patronize major advertisers of the scab-operated newspaper or Hearst publications.

The Hearst advertisers on the boycott list are:

J. C. Penney, Sears Roebuck & Company, The May Company and its affiliates in other major cities, General Tire and Rubber Company, Firestone Tire & Rubber Company,

Goodyear, B. F. Goodrich, American Tobacco Co. and all its products, General Motors, all divisions; Kraft Foods and all products.

And these are the nationwide Hearst chain publishing empire's publications which labor also asks you not to patronize:

MAGAZINES—Eye Magazine, Cosmopolitan, Good Housekeeping, Harper's Bazaar, The House Beautiful, Popular Mechanics, Town & Country, Motor, Motor Boating, Sports Afield, Bride and Home.

PAPERBACK BOOKS—Avon, RADIO-TV—WTAE, Pittsburgh, Penn.; WISN, Milwaukee; WABL, Baltimore; WAPA, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

NEWSPAPERS—San Francisco Examiner, Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, San Antonio, Tex. Light; Boston Record-American, Boston Sunday Advertiser, Baltimore News-American, Albany, New York, Times-Union and Knickerbocker News.

NEWS SYNDICATES—King Features, Hearst Headline Service.

## Two Contra Costa OCAW locals will merge on July 1

The 3,000 members of Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers 1-5 and 1-561 merged July 1 into a single local.

The merged union will be Local 1-5 with Virgil Coragliotti remaining as secretary-treasurer. G. T. Jacobs, secretary-treasurer of Local 1-561, will be field representative of the combined organization.

Local 1-5 represents Shell Oil and Shell Chemical Company employees in Martinez and the Phillips Petroleum refinery workers in Avon. Local 1-561 represents Standard Oil Company of California and Chevron Chemical Company workers in Richmond.

## High court upholds rights of teachers over board ruling

Teachers have a right to engage in peaceful activity on their own time even if it may be controversial, the California State Supreme Court ruled unanimously June 30.

The decision reversed an edict of the Los Angeles Board of Education and a Superior Court order that had supported it.

The board had denied teachers permission to circulate a petition urging no cuts in state spending on education. The board said the petition would create discord which it said is "foreign to the educational environment."

The high court said, in its opinion written by Justice Raymond E. Peters, that the government cannot hinder freedom of speech "simply in order to avert the sort of disturbance, argument or unrest which is inevitably generated by the expression of ideas which are controversial and invited dispute."

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## Forecasts antiunion moves by Nixon Labor Department

The Labor Department is pushing a "new line of attack" toward stricter enforcement of Executive Order 11246 requiring equal opportunity from government contractors.

It looked to Secretary-treasurer J. Lamar Childers like the beginning of an anti-union crackdown.

"The Nixon administration is going to use this vehicle to chastise building trades for wage rates and try to break some of them," Childers predicted.

"But I'm not worried about Oakland. We've been on top of the situation all along."

"We have taken the lead in trying to organize and upgrade the Negro in the Black community. We have organized a program to reach into the Black community to the leadership."

"The job of the Building Trades Council is to organize the unorganized, regardless of what color they are so long as they can do the job."

"This has been our policy for a long time. But it is not true in many areas of the United States."

Childers' concern over an administration crackdown was precipitated by remarks of Arthur Fletcher, assistant secretary of labor for wage and labor standards, at a meeting last month of contract compliance officers from 26 federal agencies.

Fletcher said that before August 1 the Office of Federal Contract Compliance (OFCC) would be expanded and reorganized, establish new enforcement guidelines and interagency coordination.

tion, and cut in half the number of governmental agencies involved in contract compliance.

Fletcher said handling complaints would be removed from the OFCC so it could concentrate on enforcement. He said skills of its investigators would be improved and the office would take over jurisdiction when other federal agencies aren't doing the job.

"It is absolutely essential that the Executive Order be made as effective a tool to assure human dignity in the job situation as it is possible to do," Fletcher said.

## Cash reserves for unemployment pay exceed \$11 billion

Unemployment funds in the hands of state treasuries rose for the seventh straight year in 1968 to \$11,700,000,000, a private survey reports. This is an increase of \$939,000,000 in a year.

The 1968 pay out to the unemployed was \$2,032,000,000, or \$60,000,000 less than 1967.

As a result of the growing reserves, the average state tax rate on employers dropped last year to 1.5 per cent.

California, where reserves rose by \$203,000,000, plans to cut its average tax on employers from 2.8 to 2.5 per cent.

Look for the union shop card, ask for a union clerk to serve you, and demand the union label!

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# OFFICIAL UNION NOTICES

## RETAIL CLERKS 870

The next regular membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 8, 1969 at 8 p.m. in the Union auditorium, 6537 Foothill Boulevard, Oakland.

Fraternally,  
CHARLES F. JONES,  
Pres.

## UNITED STEELWORKERS 1798

Executive Board Meeting, Friday, July 11, 1969, 8 p.m. Local Union Office, 3315 E. 14th St., Oakland, Calif.

Board of Trustees, 7 p.m. at Local Union Office.

Regular Membership Meeting, Friday, July 25, 1969, 8 p.m. Eagles Hall, 1238 36th Ave., Oakland, Calif.

Fraternally,  
EDWARD M. SOTO,  
Rec. Sec.

## BERKELEY CARPENTERS 1158

### SPECIAL NOTICE

There will NOT be a meeting on July 3, 1969. Our next meeting will be held on July 17, 1969, at which time will be the installation of officers, for the next two years. At this meeting we will also nominate and elect two members to the organizing committee.

Starting on July 1, 1969 the dues will be \$10.50. Blood Bank No. 19 is now due. See you at next meeting.

Regular meetings are held the first and third Thursdays of each month at Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut St., Berkeley.

Be a good member. Attend union meetings. You may win a door prize.

Fraternally,  
NICK J. AFDAMO,  
Rec. Sec.

## BARBERS 134

The Regular July meeting will be held on July 24, 1969, 8 p.m. at the Labor Temple, 23rd and Valdez Sts., Oakland.

The second reading of a petition to assess delinquent members \$1.00 on a second notice (biling) will be one of the matters of business to come before the membership.

### PLEASE ATTEND!

Fraternally,  
JACK M. REED,  
Sec.-Treas.

## PRINTING SPECIALTIES 678

Meeting second Thursday of the month at 8 p.m. in Cannery Workers Hall, 492 C Street, Hayward, Calif.

Fraternally,  
AL CHASMAR,  
Sec.

## PAINT MAKERS 1101

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 15, at 8 p.m. in Hall C at the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland.

Fraternally,  
CARL LAWLER,  
Rec. Sec.

## SERVICE EMPLOYEES 18

A special called meeting will be held at the Jenny Lind Hall, 2267 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland, on Wednesday, July 9, at 3 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting will be to vote on a dues increase of \$2 per month for the following groups: Window Cleaners, Golden Gate Field Employees and Colliseum Employees.

Article VIII of your Union's Constitution and By-Laws provide that a member must be in good standing to vote by secret ballot on a dues increase. Therefore, for your convenience, be sure to bring your dues book, stamped for the month of June, or a receipt for payment.

Remember the voting will be by secret ballot and you must be in good standing to participate.

Effective with the meeting of July 25, 1969 all future membership meetings of Service Employees' Local 18, will be held at the following time and place:

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Jenny Lind Hall, 2267 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland, Calif.

This is in accordance with action taken at the general membership meeting of June 27, 1969.

Fraternally,  
VICTOR C. BRANDT,  
Sec.-Bus. Rep.

## CEMETERY WORKERS 322

Regular meeting will be Thursday, July 10, at 8 p.m. in the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, due to holiday.

Following will be a meeting of all executive board and shop stewards to discuss constitutional and by-laws changes, dues of shop stewards and methods of making the union more effective. All members are invited to attend or send written suggestions to the president at 2555 Foothill Boulevard, Oakland.

Fraternally,  
RAY NEWMAN,  
President

## STEEL MACHINISTS 1304

Regular meeting Thursday, July 3 at 8 p.m. Executive Board meets 6:30 p.m. Please remember our Special Subordinate meeting on Sunday, July 20 at 10:30 a.m. This is to allow night shift members to attend 1304 meetings. Please spread the word.

Fraternally,  
DAVE ARCA,  
Rec. Sec.

## SCHOOL EMPLOYEES 257

The next Regular Meeting of the Oakland Unified School Employees Union No. 257 will be on Saturday, September 13, 1969 at 10:30 a.m. at APWMEC Hall, 3256 East 14th St., Oakland, Calif. Parking in Bank of American lot, across street from Hall.

The Executive Board will meet at 8 a.m.

NOTE: No Meeting in July or August. Vacation Months.

Fraternally,  
HAROLD BANNER,  
Exec. Sec.

## MILLMEN'S 550

There will be a SPECIAL CALLED MEETING on Friday, July 18, 1969 at 8 p.m. in Hall "A," Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland for the purpose of discussing and approving a Strike Assessment (Only).

Immediately following the Special Called meeting we will hold our regular monthly meeting for July.

Members who worked during the Strike are reminded that they owe the Strike Assessment of two hours pay per day for each day that they worked during the Strike. If you worked the full time of the Strike you will owe for nine days. This should be paid as soon as possible.

Effective immediately, there will be no more cash accepted in the office. Members paying dues will have to pay either with a Personal Check or a Money Order.

Picket Tickets will have to be turned in by July 18, 1969 to be honored.

Fraternally,  
GEO. H. JOHNSON,  
Fin. Sec.

## AFSCME U.C. 371

Starting in July we will dispense with our regular meetings for the next three months due to vacations. However, the Executive Board will meet as usual in Room 153, Krober Hall, 1 p.m.

Our next regular meeting will be held on October 11. Negotiations will take place then.

Fraternally,  
NAT DICKERSON,  
Rec. Sec.

## AFSCME 1695

Our next General Membership Meeting will be held on July 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the Shattuck-Cedar Cop Meeting Room. We will discuss the direction of the union and urge all members with criticisms to attend.

Fraternally,  
NANCY POLIN,  
Vice-Pres.

## IRON WORKERS 378

Our Regular Executive Board meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, 8 p.m.

Stewards meetings also are held the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 8 p.m.

Our regular membership meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month, 8 p.m.

Fraternally,  
BOB McDONALD,  
Bus. Agt.

## ALAMEDA CARPENTERS 194

Carpenters Local 194 meets each first and third Monday evenings of the month at 8 p.m. The meeting place is the Veterans Memorial Building, 2201 Central Avenue, Alameda.

Refreshments are served following the first meeting of the month in the canteen for all present. You are urged to attend your local's meeting.

Fraternally,  
F. M. GLADDEN,  
Rec. Sec.

## PRINTING SPECIALISTS 382

Meeting second Friday of the month at 8 p.m. in Jenny Lind Hall, 2267 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland.

Fraternally,  
JOHN G. FERRO,  
Sec.

## SHEET METAL WORKERS 216

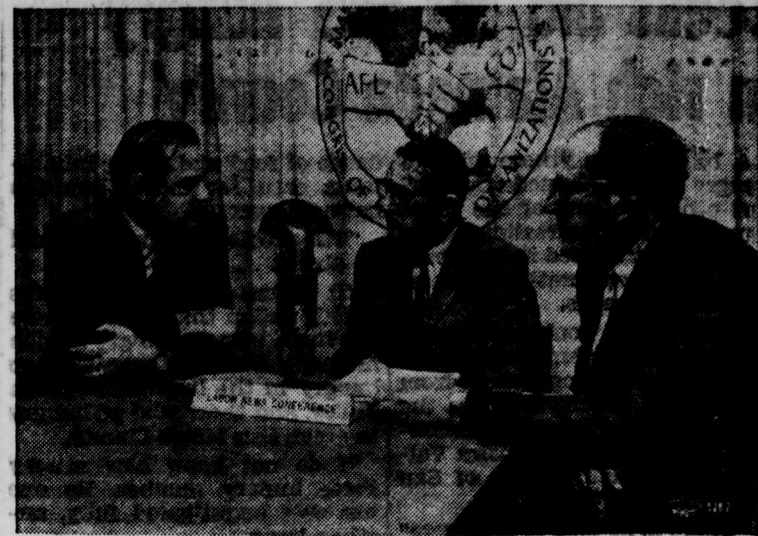
The regular meetings are every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Labor Temple.

Fraternally,  
ROBERT M. COOPER,  
Bus. Rep.

## GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES 3

General membership meeting Hall C, Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez St., Oakland, 4th Friday of the month, 8 p.m.

Fraternally,  
WRAY JACOBS,  
Rec. Sec.



**COST FACTOR** of maintaining effective industrial health and safety regulations would be miniscule, Jacob Clayman of the AFLCIO Industrial Union Department tells reporters on Labor News Conference. Interviewing Clayman are William Eaton, left, of the Chicago Daily News and Gershon Fishbein of Environmental Health Letter.

## AUTOMOTIVE MACHINISTS 1546

The regular meetings of Lodge 1546 are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the hour of 8 p.m. at our building at 10260 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland.

Fraternally,  
LEVIN CHARLES,  
Rec. Sec.

## CARPENTERS 36

The regular meetings of Carpenters Local Union 36 are held the first and third Thursday of each month at 8460 Enterprise Way, Oakland, California 94621, at 8:00 p.m. Phone 569-3465.

The hours of the Financial Secretary's office is 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Friday the office closes at 1 p.m.

Effective July 1, 1969, dues will be increased to \$10.50 per month.

Blood bank assessment number 12 in the amount of \$1.00 is now due and payable.

July 3, 1969, Thursday, 8 p.m. will be Installation of all elected officers and delegates.

Fraternally,  
CLAUDE W. DILLON,  
Rec. Sec.

## HAYWARD CARPENTERS 1622

The office of the financial secretary is open from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays; from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursdays, and on Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to noon.

The steward's meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. The stewards' training program will be held in conjunction with the stewards' meeting.

Our regular meetings are held the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, at 8 p.m., 1050 Mattox Road, Hayward.

Our social event is held on the fourth Thursday of each month following our regular meeting.

The officers sincerely urge you to attend and take part in the proceedings of your Local Union.

Fraternally,  
L. D. (Larry) TWIST,  
Rec. Sec.

## AUTO & SHIP PAINTERS 1176

Auto, Marine & Specialty Painters 1176 meets on the first and third Tuesdays of every month in Room H, Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, at 8 p.m.

Fraternally,  
LESLIE K. MOORE,  
Bus. Rep.

## Unions seek law to provide bargaining with government

AFLCIO unions representing more than 1,000,000 government workers opened a drive for a Federal Employee Labor-Management law that would provide collective bargaining machinery and an independent board to arbitrate disputes.

The legislation has been introduced in Congress at the request of the AFLCIO.

It "represents the unanimous view of the AFLCIO unions in the federal government field," AFLCIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Biemiller said.

The drafting committee included representatives of the Government Employees, Letter Carriers, Postal Clerks, AFLCIO Metal Trades Department, Machinists, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Laborers and Service Employees.

Its goal, Biemiller said, is "to assure federal government employees the same organization and collective bargaining rights as those enjoyed by employees in the private sector."

At the opening of Senate hearings of the bill, Government Employees President John F. Griner termed the bill the alternative to the right to strike if there is to be any meaningful collective bargaining in the federal civil service.

The bill provides for two forms of recognition—exclusive for unions representing a majority of workers in a bargaining unit and formal, where no union has a majority but a union has at least

10 per cent membership and no other union has nationwide exclusive recognition.

It includes a mode of fair labor practices that bar government administrators from aping union-busting tactics of private industry.

For individual grievances, unions with exclusive bargaining recognition would have the right to binding arbitration.

For disputes between the union and management, including an impasse in contract negotiations and charges of violation of contract provisions, a two-step procedure is set forth:

• Either party may bring the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service to attempt to mediate the dispute.

• If this fails, either party may submit the dispute to a proposed Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Board for a final decision.

## A/C bus drivers get cost of living raise

A seven cents an hour cost of living increase under their union contract will lift A/C Transit bus drivers to \$4.07 an hour, July 6.

Spokesmen for Amalgamated Transit Division 192 said the hike moves the drivers up to a tie with Washington for third place among the nation's bus operators. Boston and Chicago are higher.

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CIO and Building Trades Council of Alameda  
County AFLCIO.

43rd Year, Number 16

July 4, 1969

JOHN M. ESHLEMAN, Editor

LEONARD MILLIMAN, Assistant to the Editor

1622 East 12th Street, Oakland, Calif. 94606

Phone 261-3981

## Poisoned sea and air; its the convenient way

Modern man, with his technological knowledge, has a genius for despoiling and polluting the world on a massive scale.

One would think that he might have the same genius for halting the inevitable annihilation of future generations by man's own pollutants.

But he has shown no sign of it.

It's true the surgeon general of the United States has drawn many followers—including health associations, federal commissions and the California State Senate—to his crusade against cigarettes, a 20th century method of individual self-pollution.

But he and his followers have done nothing to check the spread of smog which threatens the health and life of millions.

It is also true that the Army is considering chemical deactivation of 27,000 tons of obsolete war gases rather than carting them across the country in potential death trains to dump them in the ocean where they would ultimately pollute the sea.

But there have been only miniscule and piecemeal attempts to check the farmers' effective poisoning of the rivers, oceans and much of the countryside in their chemical warfare with bugs.

The official attitude toward poisoning our surroundings is very much like the label on a highly advertised, and therefore popular, insect killer for home use.

"Clean pleasant odor!" the label reads. "Kills bugs dead. Nontoxic to humans and pets."

That means, the experts who can read between the lines tell us, that it can be fatal to birds and fish.

Another bug killer, a German developed chemical known as endosulfan, is admittedly highly toxic to fish. It, too, is described as harmless to human beings and other warm blooded animals.

That is the chemical blamed for the death of millions of fish in the Rhine River last week and the temporary shutting off of water supplies from the river to a dozen German and Dutch cities.

Endosulfan is used in California farms. It has caused some fish kills in agricultural areas but none large enough to cause a furor. A California Department of Agriculture spokesman says endosulfan is a persistent chemical, like DDT.

DDT has poisoned the oceans, wiped out Coho salmon in Lake Michigan, threatened the existence of entire species of sea birds, all within the 25 years since it was first introduced.

So the California Department of Agriculture will ban use of DDT by homeowners in their houses and gardens after the first of the year. But that is all.

A halt to the real source of the worldwide poisoning of DDT—its use by farmers—was strongly and successfully opposed by the farmers, the manufacturers of DDT, the county agricultural agents, and a rather impressive array of University of California professors.

The manufacturers are interested in their profits. The poison does the job for the farmers. As middlemen, the county agricultural agents reflect the thinking of both.

It is the professors that perhaps reveal the key to why man continues to poison everything that surrounds him—water, air and countryside.

Their reasoning goes something like this: DDT may now encircle the globe in the ocean waters but there are still fish in the sea. No sea birds have yet become extinct because of DDT and it has shown no harmful effects in farm fowl and animals. The DDT content of the human body is steadily rising, but it is still way below the supposed tolerance level and so far has shown no harmful effects on man.

In other words: DDT is doing a job and hasn't hurt man yet. So why ban it? It's convenient to continue poisoning.

The same sort of thinking applies to other man-made, man-used poisons—regardless of whether they are contaminating the water, the land or the air.

Three agricultural chemicals will go on restricted use in California July 18. That is, restricted, not banned. Note the reasons: Dicamba because it injured grapes, tomatoes and other commercial crops; azodrin because it killed pheasants and other game birds; temik because it poisoned warm blooded animals.

And what about air pollution?

We live in smog. We see it getting worse. We know the scores of gas-masked kids were right when they appeared before the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors last week with signs proclaiming: "The monster's come of age: 21 years of smog is enough."

So why don't we do something effective about it?

Because the auto is the major cause of air pollution. Most of us drive. We don't want to give up the convenience of our cars. And we aren't dead—yet.

So we continue to poison the air we breathe. It's convenient.

'Sorry, We've Got Things to Do'



## ORGANIZATION IS ONLY ANSWER FOR QUIET DESPERATION OF THE ELDERLY

Organization is the only hope for the "quiet desperation of America's elderly—the poorest of the poor." Director Bert Seidman of the AFLCIO Department of Social Security said June 23.

"Few of us realize how bad the situation is for retired workers," Seidman told a conference of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor on the problems of retired union members.

"Retiree organization is essential if the elderly are to begin to get the decent life they so richly deserve," Seidman said.

"Such activities deserve high priority in the labor movement, for without the kind of organized effort you are undertaking, the sad plight of so many senior citizens will remain unchanged—victims of poverty and despair in a rich land of abundance."

"The problems of aging are of such a magnitude that it will require efforts by all elements in the nation—labor, management and government—to solve them."

"After they retire, too many of our older citizens find that they have been left far behind by the progress they worked most of their lives to create."

He cited statistics that: 20 per cent of the poor are elderly. More than 5,000,000 older Americans have incomes below the poverty line of \$1,600 a year for an individual or \$2,000 for a couple.

"The plight of aged widows is particularly shameful," Seidman said. "About 70 per cent of them are living in poverty. There are roughly 2,800,000 widows on Social Security" with an average benefit of \$89 a month.

He described the elderly as "victims of low income, poor health care, bad housing, inadequate recreation and inferior food and clothing."

"Millions of them are isolated by poverty from the affluent mainstream of a prosperous America."

"They live in misery and without even the minimum comforts most Americans expect to enjoy. They often have no useful activities and they are frequently burdened by illness."

"In short, for millions of the elderly it is a situation of misery and loneliness—living out their lives in quiet desperation in a nation where youth is worshipped . . .

"The gap between the elderly poor and their more affluent younger fellow-citizens . . . is widening . . . All too meager Social Security benefit increases have been losing the race with inflation . . .

"The United States is almost unique in its ability to eliminate poverty . . . without really inconveniencing the well-off . . . A major part can be cured relatively easily in our wealthy nation and without major change in our economic system—particularly so for senior citizens . . .

"The aged will not be able to achieve major improvements in the Social Security laws unless they become politically active, register to vote, educate their fellow seniors and work to get out the vote."

"The 65-plus population is about 20,000,000, or 10 per cent of the total population . . . The expanding political influence of our senior citizens is certain to be a major factor in securing the proper economic treatment long due them."

"There is no realistic hope for achieving more than piecemeal gains in Social Security, in housing, in health care for the aged until there is a much larger social movement by the elderly themselves . . .

"In their efforts to build a more effective movement, senior citizens can be sure that they will have a strong ally in the labor movement."

The National Council of Senior Citizens, with 2,500,000 members, is cooperating closely with organized labor on social programs for the old and young alike, the conference was told by Seidman and the president of the council.

Council President Nelson Cruikshank was Seidman's predecessor as head of the AFLCIO Department of Social Security. Among its activities the National

Council has joined with labor in fighting so-called "right to work laws."

The Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, sponsor of the one day conference, has been a pioneer in encouraging union retiree programs and organizations.

A recent survey by the federation showed that the average Los Angeles labor union retiree is 69.8 years old, married, owns his own home, drives his own car, enjoys retirement but is financially pinched on an income of \$300 a month, survey director S. G. Goodman reported.

About 70 per cent of those interviewed received union negotiated pensions in addition to Social Security and nearly 19 per cent got a company pension. Some 10 per cent of retirees still worked to supplement income or to keep active.

Health and finances were major concerns of the retired workers. Loneliness and too much leisure time were relatively minor concerns.

The survey was conducted among 1,268 members retired from 100 locals.

## IF YOU ARE JAILED AND CONVICTED, NO STATE JOBLESS PAY

The Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board ruled this month that a worker is not entitled to unemployment benefits if he is absent from work for 24 hours because he got arrested and then is convicted.

As the board sees it, the arrested worker has voluntarily left his job without good cause.

The board pointed out that it was carrying out a new change written into the Unemployment Insurance Code by the 1968 Legislature.

The test case under which the ruling was made involved a San Francisco porter arrested for gambling.



## New union yardstick reveals health plans only half good

A yardstick developed by California unions for evaluating health plans rates the average plan available today is only about half as good as it could be.

Under the plan's point rating system, a perfect health plan would score 1,000. But of the nine plans evaluated so far, the highest scored 735. The lowest was 118. The average was 490.

The formula is the first scientific device developed for measuring health plans. It is called the Health Insurance grading System.

The system was developed in a nine month study for the California Council of Health Plan Alternatives, an organization of unions seeking better health care for negotiated plans.

It assigns points to a health plan according to how it rates in score of benefits, coverage of members and dependents, quality of care protections, control of out of pocket expenses, and strength of administrative arrangements.

Cost is not an adequate criterion, said Dr. Lester Breslow, who directed development of the system. He is professor of Health Services Administration at UCLA, former president of the American Public Health Association and a former director of Public Health.

For example, he said, one plan costing more than \$40 monthly scored 470 points while four less expensive plans scored up to 708 points.

"Obviously a health plan is not better than another just because it costs more than the others," Dr. Breslow said.

"While it is generally true that high priced plans scored better than low priced plans, our grading system shows that with more careful buying, many unions could be getting a lot more health protection and care than they now receive for the same amount of money."

Thomas Moore, who heads the CCHPA said four plans scored a complete zero on how well they guarantee quality of health care.

"There was absolutely nothing in them to assure protection," he said. "Some did not even guarantee that you would be taken to an accredited hospital."

## Utility District and union discuss EMBUD resolution

Union and East Bay Municipal Utility District negotiators were to meet July 3 to discuss a proposed district resolution on employee relations.

The session is a follow up to the successful negotiation June 24 of a first memorandum of agreement between the district and AFSCME 444.

The agreement, which ended a nine day strike, was heralded as a major breakthrough in establishing a formal relationship between union and a major utility district in California.

William Lucy, special assistant to AFSCME international president, called it "one of the significant labor victories."

Among understandings the union seeks in Thursday's meeting are precedence of the memorandum of agreement over the proposed board resolution and it wants to firm up the integrity of EBMUD bargaining units already established.

Local 444 has been recognized in four blue collar units of 12 predetermined EBMUD units. It was members of these units that struck June 13 and returned to work June 25 under the initial pact with the district.

Moore described the new guidelines as first such measurement ever developed and potentially "the most potent tool for controlling the cost and quality of health care" for union members.

Other plans are being evaluated. Moore said the newly developed yardsticks will be "modified and refined" as the study progresses.

But Dr. Breslow added that evidence so far shows "that considerable improvement can be made in even the best of existing programs."

The council's next step will be to develop standardized plans at different premium levels. Unions then would be able to adopt the plans and put them out for truly competitive bidding.

Unions or trusts interested may contact the CCHPA at 846 South Union Avenue, Los Angeles 90017. The phone is (213) 386-8551.

## Blood

Continued from page 1

Contra Costa Medical Association to transfer blood to the patient.

It will not be necessary for the patient or his family to replace the blood. The blood bank will pay members \$10 for each pint they donate.

Donations may regularly be made at 6230 Claremont Avenue, in Oakland.

Elsewhere mobile units will appear one day a month, as follows:

Ashland — 16485 14th Street, third Monday.

Fremont—United Auto Workers Hall, 45201 Fremont Blvd., third Wednesday.

Hayward—Weekes Park Community Center, 27182 Patrick Ave., second Tuesday.

Concord—Elks Lodge, 3994 Willow Pass Road, second Wednesday.

Martinez — Carpenters Union Hall, 3780 Alhambra Ave., second Monday.

Pittsburg—Moose Hall, 12th & Moose Way, fourth Monday.

Richmond — Machinist Hall, 255 Sixteenth Street, first Monday.

## Livermore

Continued from page 1

sites. The airport, used by private planes, was picketed on a 24 hour basis.

Improvement in fringes included upgrading the health plan, modernizing overtime, initiating a sick leave bank for extended illness, an additional 2.5 per cent for after dark shifts, additional holiday benefits, and standby pay.

Settlement also included agreements to study the law regarding designation of a single bargaining unit for all city employees and a joint study of benchmark classifications.

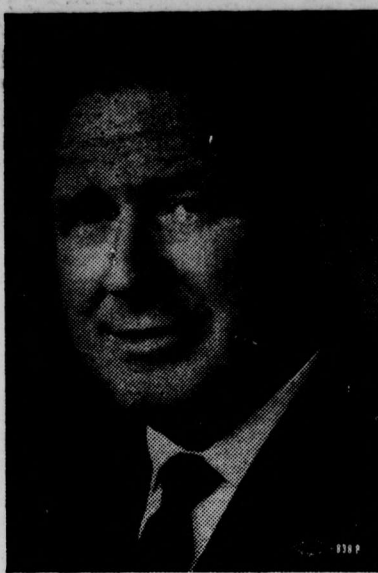
"We consider it a victory not so much in dollars as in principle," Taylor said, "the principle to have most of the money applied to gross inequities."

A letter from the mayor precipitated talks on Thursday with Parness that led to the agreement.

Chief union negotiators were AFSCME International Representative William McCue, and William Lucy, special assistant to the union's international president.

## Bricklayers speed up

A good day's work for a bricklayer in 1910 was 400 face bricks. Now it is 725. At that rate, the Labor Department predicts, it will be 1,000 bricks a day by the year 2020.



**NEW PRESIDENT of the Machinists, Floyd E. Smith, takes office July 1 as successor to P. L. Siemiller, retiring. Smith became a machinist's helper at 17, a union officer in 1945 and an IAM vice president in 1961.**

## Tony Malaker wins Hayward Painters' president contest

Hayward Painters 1178 reelected Tony Malaker president last Saturday over the challenge of three opponents.

Paul Ball was unopposed for vice president. Paul Richards defeated Vernon Haynes for Recording Secretary.

Dale Ball was reelected financial secretary over the opposition of Fred Byers. Gene Pardue beat Edward Maciel for treasurer.

Leo Golway was reelected conductor, defeating Jess Leonardo. Ralph Wheeler was unopposed for reelection as Warden. Ed Mayfield and Ted Sisney were named trustees.

Business Representative Harry Wade was reelected in a contest with Leroy Barstow.

Otto Klein, Andrew Swanson and George Bungard were elected to the Executive Board with a fourth post in doubt. Richards has a choice between being on the board or recording secretary.

Named delegates to the Building Trades Council were Swanson, Barstow, Pardue, Haynes and Ronald H. Craig.

## Arbitrator orders back pay restored to A/C bus drivers

An arbitration award, worth an estimated \$8,000 in back pay to bus drivers, last Friday restored stock time the A/C Transit District had taken away from members of Amalgamated Transit Division 192.

Stock time refers to the five minutes a day bus drivers were allowed to get the change they needed when they carried cash on their runs.

At the union's request, the district last summer adopted the "ready fare plan," since copied throughout the nation, under which the driver carries no change. The district then eliminated the five minutes of paid "stock time" allowed drivers.

The union protested that drivers still had to carry important pieces of paper of monetary value to the district and were entitled to continued stock time pay.

Arbitrator John W. Bristow of Oakland settled the argument last week and ruled for the union.

## Hard core training

Two thousand small businesses make up 70 per cent of federally finance jobs — Job Opportunities in the Business Sector — a training program for hard core unemployed.

## Steamfitters ok \$2.52 hike in new three year contract

New three year contracts adding \$2.52 an hour went into effect July 1 for Steamfitters & Refrigeration 342 in Alameda and Contra Costa County. It brings the journeyman rate to \$8.59½ an hour now.

Simultaneously pipefitters and plumbers elsewhere went on strike, unable to reach new agreements. They included Local 159 in Richmond and District Council 16 in Los Angeles involving about 12,000 men.

An overflow crowd of more than 600 Monday night approved the Local 342 agreement with Industrial Contractors and Mechanical Contractors Association of Northern California.

The new pacts add 85 cents an hour now, 82 cents next July 1 and 85 cents July 1, 1971.

Business Manager J. H. (Jim) Martin reported that wages went up from \$7.84½ cents an hour to \$8.59½ cents immediately. This includes an increase in the vacation hourly rate to \$1.20. Of this 15 cents will be checked off for union dues and five cents for the building fund.

Pension contributions were raised from 55 cents an hour to 65 cents. A half cent was added to the apprentice and training fund.

In fringes the allowance was increased 50 cents per zone and free parking was guaranteed within 2.2 miles of the job site.

The agreement, replacing the old contract that expired June 30, applies to 1,390 members of Local 342.

## Grape talks continue; new break in vineyardist front

Continued from page 1

lieve you are doing a disservice to the growers."

He addressed his letter to Alan Mills, head of the league, who had reported that 1,800,000 boxes of Perlette table grapes had been shipped this year from Coachella Valley in Riverside County. Most of the 10 negotiating growers, who account for 15 per cent of California's table grapes, are Coachella vineyardists.

Mills compared the figure with 1,060,000 million shipped last year. He argued that it showed "the total failure" of the international boycott on California table grapes.

Steinberg said Mills had conveniently forgotten a "vicious cost price squeeze" that has forced the price of table grapes down to \$5 a box from last year's \$6.50 in major U.S. markets.

"Every grape grower knows," Steinberg wrote, that "we are losing maybe 20 per cent of our market value because of the boycott."

Non-negotiating Coachella Valley growers evicted workers who conducted sitdown strikes in their labor camps. They also obtained an injunction barring union organizers from the camps.

UFWOC Strike Director Pete Velasco in the Valley said few pickers remained in the fields, "but we are still getting pickers to come out in response to our public address appeals through bullhorns from the road."

The mediation sessions began in Los Angeles June 23 at the request of the 10 growers. They are opposed by big agrobusiness interests and such Republicans as Governor Reagan and Senator George Murphy.

## Nurse strike ends after 18 days in mediated contract

An 18 hour strike by nurses against eight hospitals ended Wednesday after a 17 hour marathon mediation session directed by Sam Kagel.

A compromise on the key issue authorized elected committees of the California Nurses Association to make advisory recommendations to Hospital review committees, which will include nurses. The association had demanded recognition of professional performance committees on staffing and nursing procedures.

About 1,000 nurses were involved in the strike against the East Bay. Kagel was called in this week by the mayors of San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley and Albany.

Reagan called it "immoral" and "attempted blackmail" for UFWOC to try to obtain recognition from the growers.

He supports the kind of legislation proposed by Murphy which would ban strikes at harvest time and prohibit boycott of farm products. Holdout vineyardists say they want such legislation adopted on either the state or federal level before they talk with the union.

In Ottawa the Canadian Labor Congress reaffirmed its support of the international boycott saying "There is absolutely no reason why these employees... should not be accorded the same rights" as other workers.

## Building Trades

Continued from page 1

pute, still in negotiation is the only dispute "that could seriously disrupt the industry this year."

He reported new three-year agreements reached by Steamfitters with an hourly increase of \$2.52 (see separate story) and by Glaziers with a \$2.45 hike. Both were effective Tuesday, as was a raise to \$6.07 an hour in wages or \$7.61 including fringes for Painters District Council 16.

Childers reported further progress in developing greater safety measures on major construction projects.

The BTC signed agreements with A & R Marmont Development Company; California Rustic Home Builders; Crow & Crow Masonry Company; Buttress, McClellan & Markwith, Inc.; and Laugeson Construction Company.

## Council condemns committee ways

The Central Labor Council Monday formally condemned the U.S. Senate McClellan Committee for harrasing the American Federation of Teachers 1570 at the University of California, Berkeley.

The protest was against the committee subpoenaing confidential records of the union and its members. The Council approved a resolution saying "this investigation is an unconstitutional harrasment and invasion of the privacy of this trade union and its members."

Geoffrey Carliner, Local 1570 grievance chairman, said, "We don't think that kind of stuff should go on."

## Ed Collins CLC aide

Ed Collins started work June 30 as assistant executive secretary of the Alameda County Central Labor Council. He succeeds Ed Morgan, who resigned.